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## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

**DATE:** December 8, 2004  
**FILE NO:** ROC920010064US1  
**TO:** Examiner Andrew Fischer  
**FAX NO:** 703/872-9306  
**COMPANY:** USPTO  
**FROM:** Gero G. McClellan  
**PAGE(S) with cover:** 12  
**ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW?** ☐ YES ☒ NO

### RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 8, 2004

**U.S. SERIAL NO.:** 09/848,573  
**FILING DATE:** May 3, 2001  
**INVENTOR:** Bates et al.  
**EXAMINER:** Andrew Fischer  
**GROUP ART UNIT:** 3627  
**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 6829

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PATENT  
Att. Dkt. No. ROC920010064US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DEC 6 8 1964

In re Application of:  
Bates et al.

**Serial No.: 09/848,573**

Confirmation No.: 6829

Filed: May 3, 2001

**For: Systems and Methods for  
Operating Vending Machines**

www.ck12.org

**Group Art Unit: 3627**

**Examiner:** Fischer, A.

**Mail Stop AF**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**CERTIFICATE OF FAX**  
**37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 703/872-9306 to the attention of Examiner Andrew Fischer on the date below:

December 8, 2004  
Date

**Joseph M. Jong**

**Dear Sir:**

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 8, 2004**

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 8, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 8, 2005, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. While no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.